

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6684

BILL NUMBER: SB 367

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 21, 2003

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Reports Concerning Adult Lead Poisoning.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Miller

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X

**GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill authorizes the State Department of Health to determine the magnitude of lead poisoning in all Indiana residents. (Under current law the Department's authority is limited to children who are 6 years old or younger.) The bill requires the report to the Department on an individual's examination for lead poisoning to include the name of the individual's employer and the employer's address. It allows the Department to report certain information about the examination of an individual's blood for the presence of lead to specified local health departments. The bill also requires the Department to report the information to the Department of Labor's Bureau of Safety Education and Training.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary:* This bill should have minimal fiscal impact on the State Department of Health. The bill will require the Department to make minor modifications to an existing data base to add two new reporting fields. This bill would not require the Department to provide blood lead testing for adults. However, adding adults to the lead testing and monitoring program is permitted. The Department is not required by this bill to perform the testing. The Department of Labor (DOL) has estimated that reports of 7,000 adult blood level tests would be received. It is anticipated that many of these tests would be performed by hospital or commercial laboratories and billed to the person's employer. If the person being tested is not employed or eligible for Medicaid, the Department may become the testing laboratory of last resort.

The bill allows the Department to report results of blood lead screening to local health departments and requires the reports be sent to the Department of Labor's Bureau of Safety, Education, and Training. The Department reports this can be accomplished within the level of resources expected to be available.

Background Information: Under current lead monitoring activities for children under age 7 years, the Department receives a federal grant of \$264,000. This grant pays for the expenses associated with maintaining 7 staff positions; it does not provide funds for laboratory testing. The Department reports that

lead tests cost the state about \$15, and approximately 14,000 samples were tested in the Department's lab in FY 2002. The Department bills the Medicaid program for lead testing performed on Medicaid-eligible children. The balance of the laboratory testing expense is paid with state General Funds provided from the Department's main administrative appropriation. The Department was not able to quantify the number of Medicaid-billed tests at this time.

The bill would allow the implementation of the federal Adult Blood Lead Epidemiology and Surveillance Program, (ABLES). The federal ABLES program provides funding and technical assistance to participating states. The goal of the program is to eliminate lead poisoning. State ABLES programs collect blood lead level data from private health care providers, local health departments, and from both private and state reporting laboratories. The state ABLES programs:

- (1) collect, analyze, and report their data;
- (2) conduct follow-ups with physicians, workers, and employers;
- (3) target on-site inspections of work sites;
- (4) provide referrals to cooperating agencies;
- (5) identify new exposures and failures in prevention; and
- (6) target educational and other interventions.

Explanation of State Revenues: If the Department is mandated by the state to collect and monitor all blood level testing results, it should qualify for an additional biennial federal grant of \$49,000.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Department of Health; Department of Labor.

Local Agencies Affected: Local Health Departments.

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